

STATE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS



Mermentau Basin Inundation Relief

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

In 2020, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative’s five coordinating state agencies selected 15 projects to receive \$163 million in federal funding. The projects were selected because they align with the missions of these agencies and the long-term resilience objectives of LWI. Specifically, the projects will reduce flood risk in communities throughout the state, store floodwaters in ways that enhance natural habitats and move people in flood-prone areas out of harm’s way. As the granting agency of these funds, the Louisiana Office of Community Development reviewed the projects to ensure they meet HUD requirements and align with the state’s \$1.2 billion CDBG-MIT [Action Plan](#).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Parishes located within the Mermentau Basin are continually threatened with flooding during significant rainfall events. The Mermentau Basin Inundation Relief project will link existing drainage laterals along La. Hwy. 82 to convey stormwater north of the highway, widen downstream channels, install new gates at the East End Locks and include other drainage features. The project will divert water into surrounding marshes, improve water quality, sustain fish and wildlife habitat and reduce area flood risk.

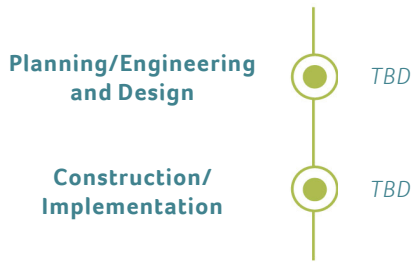
COST ESTIMATE

\$ 25 million



Aerial view of the Mermentau Basin where project improvements will be implemented to reduce flood risk in the lower basin (shaded). This is one of 15 projects funded by LWI as part of its initial \$163 million investment in reducing flood risk statewide.

PROJECT DURATION



PROJECT LOCATION

Vermilion Parish

(HUD-Identified Most Impacted and Distressed Area)

Cameron Parish

(State-Identified Most Impacted and Distressed Area)

SCALE OF INFLUENCE



PLAN CONSISTENCY

LOUISIANA CDBG-MIT MASTER ACTION PLAN (2020)

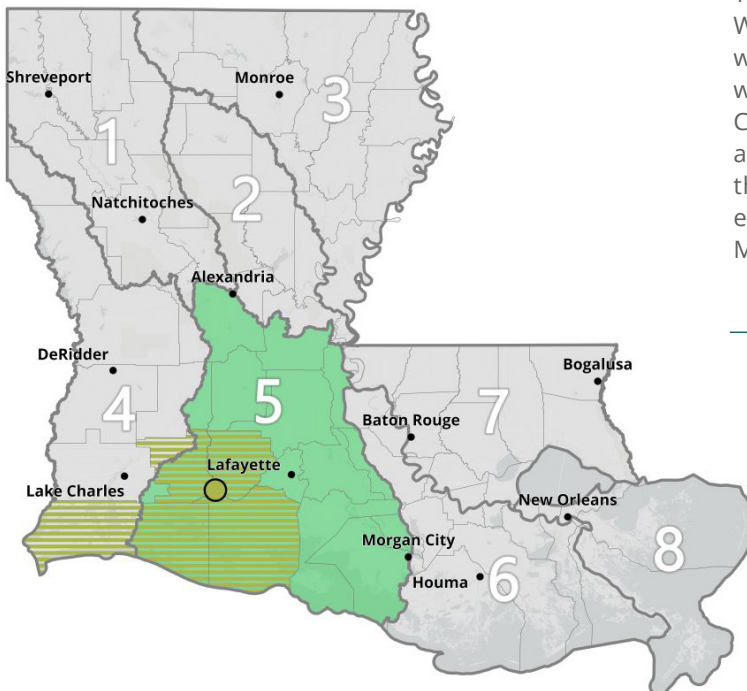
The project is consistent with the Louisiana CDBG-MIT Master Action Plan's focus on implementing "state-identified regional retention/detention, natural flood management and infrastructure projects." OCD identifies flood control projects as unmet mitigation needs.

LOUISIANA'S COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN FOR A SUSTAINABLE COAST (2017)

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority incorporated the Flood Risk and Resilience Program into the agency's State Coastal Master Plan. The proposed project is consistent with CPRA's goal of implementing high-performing risk reduction projects in coastal parishes.

PROVISIONAL WATERSHED REGION AND PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in Provisional Watershed Regions 4 and 5. Region 4 is located in western Louisiana and is organized around two main watersheds, or drainage basins: the Sabine and Calcasieu watersheds. Region 5 includes 16 parishes and stretches from Rapides Parish near the center of the state to St. Mary Parish along the southeastern edge. The region is organized around the Calcasieu-Mermentau and the Atchafalaya-Vermilion watersheds.



- Project Location(s)
- Project Location Parish(es)
- Provisional Watershed Region(s)

Location of Watershed Regions 4 and 5, with project location indicated by the green circle.